

**MBNMS Research Activity Panel
Meeting Summary
September 12, 2008**

Host: Jason Vasques – Fisheries (California Department of Fish and Game)

Location: California Department of Fish and Game
Conference Room
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey, CA 93940

Date: Friday, September 12th, 2008; 9:00 am to 12 pm

MEMBERS:

	Discipline	Primary/ Alternate	Name	Institution
X	Research Coordinator		DeVogelaere, Andrew	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
	Biological Oceanography	primary	Chavez, Francisco	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Biological Oceanography	alternate	Kudela, Raphael	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Deep-Sea Ecology	primary	Cailliet, Greg	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
	Deep-Sea Ecology	alternate		
	Estuarine Ecology	primary	Wasson, Kerstin	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Estuarine Ecology	alternate	Van Dyke, Eric	Elkhorn Slough NERR and Foundation
	Fisheries	primary	Grimes, Churchill	NOAA Fisheries Service
X	Fisheries	alternate	Vasques, Jason	California Department of Fish & Game
X	Marine & Coastal Geology	primary	Storlazzi, Curt	United States Geological Survey
	Marine & Coastal Geology	alternate	Paull, Charles	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
	Marine Conservation Biology	primary	Harrold, Chris*	Monterey Bay Aquarium
	Marine Conservation Biology	alternate	Micheli, Fiorenza	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Marine Policy	primary	Faurot-Daniels, Ellen	California Coastal Commission
X	Marine Policy	alternate	Sharp, Gary	Center for Climate/Ocean Resources Study
X	Nearshore Ecology	primary	Lindholm, James	California State University Monterey Bay
X	Nearshore Ecology	alternate	Carr, Mark	University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Physical Oceanography	primary	McPhee-Shaw, Erika	Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
X	Physical Oceanography	alternate	Ramp, Steve	CeNCOOS/MBARI
	Shelf & Slope Ecology	primary	Yoklavich, Mary	NOAA Fisheries Service
X	Shelf & Slope Ecology	alternate	Starr, Rick	California Sea Grant Extension Program
	Social Sciences	primary	Pomeroy, Caroline	California Sea Grant Extension Program
X	Social Sciences	alternate	Kildow, Judith	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
X	Water Quality	primary	Epel, David	Hopkins Marine Station
X	Water Quality	alternate	Hunt, John†	University of California, Davis

*Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Primary)

†Sanctuary Advisory Council Member: Research (Alternate)

GUESTS:

	Name	Institution
X	Burton, Erica	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Eng, Mike	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Haas, Diane	California Department of Fish and Game
X	Hoover, Bridget	Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	LaFranchi, Chris	West Coast Regional Office, National Marine Sanctuaries
X	Raimondi, Pete	PISCO; University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Saarman, Emily	PISCO; University of California, Santa Cruz
X	Selbie, Hugo	Sea Grant Fellow; Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary
X	Van Sommeran, Sean	Pelagic Shark Research Foundation

CONSENT ITEMS**Introductions/Modifications to the Agenda (John Hunt)**

- Ocean Science Summit presentation by Judith Kildow was moved ahead in the agenda

New RAP Members and Vice-Chair (John Hunt)

- RAP welcomed three new members, filling three vacant disciplines
 - James Lindholm – Nearshore Ecology (Primary); CSUMB
 - Steve Ramp – Physical Oceanography (Alternate); CeNCOOS/MBARI
 - Jason Vasques – Fisheries (Alternate); CDFG
- RAP welcomed new Vice-Chair
 - John Hunt, Water Quality (Alternate); University of California, Davis

Introduction of Mike Eng (Resource Protection Coordinator/MBNMS)

- Mike Eng described his background and new role as Resource Protection Coordinator at MBNMS. He filled the position, previously held by Holly Price.

PRESENTATIONS**Ocean Science Summit (Judith Kildow)**

- Judith summarized the Ocean Science Summit held in Monterey in May 2008
- Goals of the Summit included:
 - Expand and improve communications between scientists, engineers, and legislators
 - Raise the visibility of oceans in climate change discussion and generally on Capitol Hill
 - Help scientists and engineers provide clear messages about their work
 - Engage scientists in understanding the political system
- Next Steps include the preparation and release of a Summit Report and an Expanded Briefing Paper

Central Coast Research and MPA Monitoring Update (Diane Haas and Jason Vasques/CDFG)

- Jason and Diane presented current research and MPA monitoring projects at CDFG, including:
 - ROV surveys of finfish and invertebrates, inside and outside of MPAs
 - Spot prawn surveys at Soquel Canyon and Portuguese Ledge
 - Fish abundance, size, and movement at Carmel Pinnacles State Marine Reserve
 - Nearshore fish surveys for baseline fisheries management
 - Monterey Halibut monitoring (stock assessment)
 - Hagfish monitoring (re-emerging fishery, management)
- Rick Starr provided copies of new publication summarizing first year of ROV MPA surveys by Yoklavich and Starr, “Monitoring MPAs in Deep Water Off Central California: 2007 IMPACT Submersible Baseline Survey”. Rick will send PDF and website to RAP when available.

Planned Investigation of Big Sur Fires' Impact on MBNMS (Curt Storlazzi)

- Several research groups will work together to study the impacts of the Big Sur Fires on the nearshore ecosystem
- Curt presented a map of the fire extent, and reviewed the existing research programs working in the Big Sur area
 - PISCO
 - Melissa Foley (UCSC): influence of land on nearshore kelp forest communities
 - MBNMS Water Quality Projection Program's Snapshot Day
 - USGS
- USGS will work with these groups and coordinate research activities
- USGS and others would like to collect data before and after the first rain
- Ship time is needed for collection of box cores, and money is needed for processing samples; USGS can match staff/lab time
- If there are any interests, RAP should send an email to Andrew DeVogelaere and Steve Lonhart; a separate group will be formed to discuss research issues

STAFF/SAC REQUESTS TO RAP

Sanctuary Currents Symposium: Ideas for speakers and topics (Erica Burton/MBNMS)

- In August, Chris Harrold brought the RAP's ideas for the 2009 Currents Symposium theme to the planning committee meeting, and a theme was chosen: “From past to future -- altered ecosystems of the MBNMS” (focusing on ecological history, history of human use, and shifting baselines)
- Erica asked the RAP for ideas on potential speakers and topics; the RAP provided many good ideas and these will be forwarded to the planning committee

PRESENTATION

Pelagic Shark Research Foundation Update (Sean Van Sommeran/PSRF)

- Sean summarized current projects, including:
 - Sharks and rays at Elkhorn Slough

- Pelagic sharks at Monterey Canyon
- White shark study at Año Nuevo

DISCUSSION ITEMS

SAC Meeting Debrief (John Hunt and Mike Eng/MBNMS)

- John summarized research topics presented at August SAC meeting, including presentations by Raphael Kudela and John Ryan on Harmful Algal Blooms
- Mike Eng provided an update on MBNMS's process of moving forward with MPAs in federal waters of the Sanctuary
- For more info on the SAC meeting and MPA process documents, including NOAA's process for regulating fisheries in sanctuaries, see <http://montereybay.noaa.gov/sac/2008/081508/agenda.html>

SUGGESTED FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Data integration across monitoring programs (e.g., water quality, PISCO, MARINe, IOOS), and availability to the public
- The Nature Conservancy's trawling impact study at Morro Bay
- RAP identified priority of topics below:
 1. SIMoN
 2. MPA Science Synthesis – MLPA (Mark Carr)

Future Agenda Items (running list):

- Water Quality
 - Findings on tracking pathogens in sea otters and connection to FW flows (CDFG, UC Davis?)
 - Critical coastal areas presentation (ASBS, areas water quality impaired, areas in good state; Ross Clark)
- SIMoN
 - SIMoN: future monitoring (JMPR or beyond)
 - SIMoN Special Status Species Project (Jennifer Brown)
 - Linking SIMoN to management (Amber Szoboszlai)
- MPAs
 - CINMS MPA evaluation (Mark Carr/NCEAS)
 - MPA science synthesis – MLPA (Mark Carr)
 - MPA monitoring projects (Jason Vasques)
- Coastal armoring and coastal erosion (Ed Thornton)
- Communication Partnership for Science and the Sea (COMPASS)
- Wave Model Development and Implementation (Paul Wittmann/Fleet Numerical)
